

James W. Carter

Division Director

Ted Stewart Executive Director

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-5319 (TDD)

November 9, 1994

Mr. Frederick D. Fox Director, Environmental Affairs Kennecott Utah Copper P.O. Box 525 Bingham Canyon, Utah 84006-0525

Bond Release for Pine Canyon, Kennecott Utah Copper, Carr Fork/Pine Canyon Mine, Re:

M/045/004, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Fox:

Thank you for your October 13, 1994 letter, wherein you formally requested that the Division release Kennecott Utah Copper from its \$82,400 reclamation surety and reclamation contract presently in effect for the Pine Canyon mine site. In response, we conducted an onsite inspection on November 8, 1994. We met with Kennecott representatives to inspect the areas (@17.3 acres) that are described under Kennecott's (June 1989) final reclamation plan for the remaining Pine Canyon disturbances and facilities. Following initial onsite discussions, it became apparent that there was a minor misunderstanding regarding what the remaining reclamation obligations were under the final approved reclamation plan. We discussed those obligations and agreed that additional reclamation work would be required, before we could consider returning Kennecott's reclamation surety.

Significant reclamation has been performed in Pine Canyon by Kennecott. Roughly 120 acres were reclaimed by Kennecott in the fall of 1988 and the spring of 1989. This reclamation work is very well done and the revegetation success will probably meet (or exceed) the 70% revegetation standard. However, because it is too late in the year to perform a reasonable assessment of the vegetation, we will need to evaluate these areas again next spring or early summer.

Flood damage repair work was performed in the fall of 1993, with subsequent reseeding in the spring of 1994. The recent recontouring and channel restoration work performed on approximately 12 acres (1993 annual report) of previously reclaimed land is commendable. There is good evidence of new seedling germination on this acreage following Kennecott's spring/94 reseeding efforts. Another couple growing seasons will probably be required before the 70% revegetation performance standard is met on these areas.



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Please contact me if you have any questions, or if you need copies of pertinent file information concerning the approved final reclamation plan for this mine site.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

cc: Dave Cline, KUC

Lowell Braxton, DOGM Minerals staff (route)

M045004.rel